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**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
OCTOBER 2010**

Red meat production in **Colorado** during September 2010 totaled 182.2 million pounds, up 5 percent from 173.3 million pounds a year earlier and slightly lower than August 2010 production. Cattle kill during September was up 7 percent from a year earlier to 209,600 head and the average live weight decreased 13 pounds to 1,334 per head. Hog slaughter, at 1,000 head, was down 300 head from a year earlier but the average live weight of 261 pounds was 7 pound above the previous year. Accumulated red meat production for the January-September period this year, now totals 1.60 billion pounds, 4 percent above last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.16 billion pounds in September, down 2 percent from the 4.26 billion pounds produced in September 2009. Beef production, at 2.25 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.90 million head, up 3 percent from September 2009. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,289 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.3 million pounds, 4 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 71,200 head, down 12 percent from September 2009. The average live weight was up 28 pounds from last year, at 273 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.88 billion pounds, down 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.34 million head, down 6 percent from September 2009. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.1 million pounds, was down 12 percent from September 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 204,000 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 1 pound from September a year ago.

January to September 2009 commercial red meat production was 36.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2009. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was down 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Sept. 2009	Aug. 2010	Sept. 2010	January-September	
				2009	2010
	Million Pounds				
Colorado:	173.3	183.4	182.2	1,541.0	1,601.1
United States:	4,262.7	4,126.5	4,160.5	36,770.0	36,100.5
Beef	2,234.1	2,287.5	2,252.8	19,539.5	19,570.3
Veal	11.7	11.2	11.3	101.3	99.9
Pork	2,002.1	1,815.0	1,883.3	17,002.9	16,309.3
Lamb & Mutton .	14.8	12.8	13.1	126.2	121.1

* - Revised.

**CATTLE ON FEED
OCTOBER 1, 2010**

COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,000,000 head as of October 1, 2010. The latest inventory was up 12 percent from September 1, 2010 and up 4 percent from the 960,000 on feed on October 1, 2009. The inventory included 705,000 steers and steer calves, up 8 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 290,000 head, was down 5 percent from last year while cows and bulls were unchanged at 5,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 180,000 head of fed cattle during September 2010. This was 3 percent below August 2010 marketings of 185,000 head but 16 percent above a year ago. An estimated 295,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during September, up 13 percent from a year ago and up 55 percent above the August 2010 placements of 190,000. Of the number placed in September, 12 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 12 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 22 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 54 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for September, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from September 2009 and August 2010.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on October 1, 2010. The inventory was 3 percent above October 1, 2009. The inventory included 6.60 million steers and steer calves, up 3 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.12 million head, also up 3 percent from 2009. Placements in feedlots

during September totaled 2.46 million, 3 percent above 2009. Net placements were 2.41 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 510,000, 600-699 pounds were 455,000, 700-799 pounds were 602,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 895,000. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.80 million, 2 percent above 2009. Other disappearance totaled 54,000 during September, 15 percent above 2009.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000 Plus Capacity, Sept. 1 to Oct 1, 2009-2010**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 head			
On Feed Sept. 1	860	890	9,900	10,173
Placements During Sept.	260	295	2,388	2,462
< 600 pounds	20	35	490	510
600 - 699 Pounds	25	35	450	455
700 - 799 Pounds	65	65	593	602
800 Plus Pounds	150	160	855	895
Marketings During Sept.	155	180	1,767	1,802
Other Disap. During Sept.	5	5	47	54
On Feed Oct 1.	960	1,000	10,474	10,779
Steers & Steer Calves	650	705	6,416	6,601
Heifers & Heifer Calves	305	290	4,012	4,123
Cows & Bulls	5	5	46	55

**MILK PRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 2010**

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado dairy herds produced 237 million pounds of milk during September 2010, up 17 million pounds from last September's production, and down 6 million pounds from August's production. The average number of cows, at 122,000 head, increased 2,000 head from last month, and up 5,000 cows from the previous year. The average milk per cow for the month of September in Colorado was 1,945 pounds per cow, down from 2,025 pounds per cow in August but 65 pounds per cow higher than 2009. Colorado is seventh in the nation in milk production per cow.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during September totaled 14.5 billion pounds, up 3.6 percent from September 2009. August revised production at 15.0 billion pounds, was up 2.7 percent from August 2009. The August revision represented a decrease of 18 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,729 pounds for September, 54 pounds above September 2009. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.37 million head, 31,000 head more than September 2009, and 4,000 head more than August 2010.

Milk production in the U.S. during the July - September quarter totaled 48.1 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of

milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.12 million head, 32,000 head less than the same period last year.

Colorado and U. S. Milk Production, September, 2009-10

Item	Unit	2009	2010
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	117	122
Production per cow <u>2/</u>	Pounds	1,880	1,945
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. lbs.	220	237
23 State Total:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	8,335	8,366
Production per cow <u>2/</u>	Pounds	1,675	1,729
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. lbs.	13,957	14,466

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**AGRICULTURAL PRICES
OCTOBER 2010**

The preliminary All Farm Product Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 160 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 12 points (8.1 percent) from September. The Crop Index is up 17 points (11 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, soybeans, eggs, and milk and lower prices for hogs, broilers, cattle, and potatoes. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of soybeans, corn, grain sorghum, and cotton offset decreased marketings of wheat, milk, sweet corn, and grapes.

The October All Crops Index is up 17 points (11 percent) from September and 25 points (17 percent) above October 2009. The October all wheat price, at \$6.08 per bushel, is up 25 cents from September and \$1.61 above October 2009. The corn price, at \$4.78 per bushel, is up 70 cents from last month and \$1.17 above October 2009. Grain sorghum, at \$8.47 per cwt, is \$1.21 above September and \$2.93 above October last year. The soybean price, at \$10.70 per bushel, increased 72 cents from September and \$1.27 above October 2009. The all potato price, at \$6.97 per hundredweight, is down 38 cents from September but down 14 cents from last October. The all dry bean price, at \$24.90 per hundredweight, is down \$1.60 from the previous month and \$5.00 below October last year.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2009		2010	
	Sept.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.
	Percent			
Prices Received.....	126	134	148	160
Prices Paid	176	177	183	185
Ratio <u>1/</u>	72	76	81	86

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates.

The October Livestock & Products Index at 134, is 0.7 percent below last month but up 22 percent from October 2009. The October hog price, at \$57.00 per hundredweight, is down \$4.20 from September but \$19.20 higher than a year ago. The October beef cattle price of \$92.40 per hundredweight is down \$1.80 from last month but \$13.20 higher than October 2009. The October all milk price of \$18.30 per hundredweight increased 60 cents from last month and is \$4.00 higher than October 2009.

Average Prices Received By Farmers ^{1/}

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Oct. 2009	Sept. 2010	Oct. 2010
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	4.15	5.67	5.83
Corn.....	Bu.	3.82	3.97	4.94
Barley (All).....	Bu.	5.38	3.86	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	6.40	11.10	11.30
Dry edible beans	Cwt	37.50	24.00	22.40
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	135.00	125.00	125.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	115.00	110.00	105.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	89.10	104.00	104.00
Steers & Heifers.....	Cwt	90.00	105.00	105.00
Cows.....	Cwt	45.00	61.50	57.50
Calves.....	Cwt	100.00	117.00	117.00
Sheep	Cwt	29.00	51.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	96.00	130.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.00	17.70	18.40
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	4.47	5.83	6.08
Corn.....	Bu.	3.61	4.08	4.78
Soybeans.....	Bu.	9.43	9.98	10.70
Barley (All).....	Bu.	4.41	3.62	3.69
Sorghum	Cwt	5.54	7.26	8.47
Potatoes	Cwt	7.11	7.35	6.97
Dry edible beans	Cwt	29.90	26.50	24.90
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	109.00	117.00	118.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	97.10	95.20	96.90
Onions	Cwt	8.19	17.90	16.80
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	79.20	94.20	92.40
Steers & Heifers.....	Cwt	84.40	99.30	97.90
Cows.....	Cwt	43.60	55.40	53.00
Calves.....	Cwt	103.00	117.00	118.00
Sheep	Cwt	29.80	48.10	3/
Lambs	Cwt	96.80	135.00	3/
Hogs	Cwt	37.80	61.20	57.00
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.30	17.70	18.30
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.400	0.490	0.470

^{1/} Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments. ^{2/} Insufficient sales to establish a price. ^{3/} Mid-month price not estimated.

Colorado's mid-October prices for crop items averaged higher than a year ago except dry beans and hay. Wheat, at \$5.83 per bushel, averaged \$1.68 above October 2009 and 16 cents above September of this year. Corn averaged \$4.94 per bushel in mid-October this year, up \$1.12 from the previous year and up 97 cents from last month. Potato prices increased 20 cents

per hundredweight from last month to \$11.30 per cwt and averaged \$4.90 above the October 2009 average of \$6.40 per hundredweight. Alfalfa hay prices at \$125.00 per ton remained unchanged from last month but decreased \$10.00 from a year ago. Other hay prices at \$105.00 per ton decreased \$5.00 per ton from September 2010, and were down \$10.00 from October 2009. Steer and heifer prices at \$105.00 per hundredweight remained unchanged from last month and \$15.00 above a year ago. Cows, at \$57.50 per hundredweight, were down \$4.00 from last month and averaged \$12.50 above October 2009. Calves averaged \$117.00 for mid-October and remained unchanged from last month but up \$17.00 per hundredweight from a year ago. The October all milk price of \$18.40 was 70 cents above last month and \$4.40 above a year ago.

**COLD STORAGE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2010**

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 2010 were greater than year earlier levels for eggs, chicken and cheese. Butter stocks were down 16 percent from last month and down 43 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 5 percent from the previous month but down 14 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 10 percent from the previous month but down 20 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 34 percent from last month and down 88 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on September 30, 2010 were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 5 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 1 percent from the previous month and up 12 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 6 percent from last month and down 23 percent from September 30, 2009.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Sept. 30, 2009	Aug. 31, 2010	Sept. 30, 2010
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	227,924	155,253	129,779
Cheese, total natural.....	983,941	1,040,698	1,045,929
Eggs, frozen	21,590	24,688	26,156
Poultry, total frozen	1,253,509	1,213,063	1,187,701
Chicken.....	634,357	705,736	712,971
Turkey.....	613,891	502,175	469,866
Fruits, frozen.....	1,200,655	1,118,468	1,135,992
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,540,830	1,446,218	1,343,603
Vegetables, total frozen....	2,624,709	2,263,390	2,554,511
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,130,249	1,036,329	1,062,440
Meats, total red	984,048	803,374	847,374
Beef, total frozen.....	428,913	387,438	397,652
Pork, total frozen.....	528,681	388,292	425,523

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Nov. 9 - Crop Production
- Nov. 18 - Milk Production
- Nov. 19 - Cattle on Feed
- Nov. 22 - Cold Storage
- Nov. 22 - Chickens and Eggs
- Nov. 26 - Livestock Slaughter
- Nov. 30 - Agricultural Prices

William Meyer
Director

Rodger Ott
Deputy Director